

State of California
Business, Transportation and Housing Agency
Department of Transportation

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HIGHWAY FINANCIAL MATTERS
Allocation for SHOPP Projects
Resolution: FM-02-01
CTC Meeting: July 18, 2002

Reference No.: 2.5g

Original Signed By:
ROBERT L. GARCIA
Chief Financial Officer
July 1, 2002

**ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR STATE HIGHWAY OPERATION AND PROTECTION
PROGRAM (SHOPP) PROJECTS 2002-2003 FISCAL YEAR**

RESOLUTION FM-02-01

BACKGROUND

Responsibility for administration of the Federal Aid Railroad-Highway At-Grade Crossing Program (23 U.S.C., Section 130) has been transferred to the Division of Rail from the Division of Engineering Services. Each year the Department requests \$5,000,000 in SHOPP funds to eliminate hazards at railroad-highway grade crossings. Projects to eliminate these hazards are authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) pursuant to Public Utilities Code Sections 1201-1202 and General Order 88-A. The Department provides funds to railroads for the delivery of CPUC approved projects. Past practice has been to allocate funds to individual projects. This request is for a lump sum allocation of these funds consistent with the Budget Act. This lump sum allocation will conform Section 130 capital outlay projects to the current practice of allocating a lump sum for Section 130 projects in the Department's local assistance program.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the following Resolution be approved.

FINANCIAL RESOLUTION

Resolved, that \$5,000,000 be allocated from the 2002 Budget Act Items 2660-302-0042 (\$500,000) and 2660-302-0890 (\$4,500,000) for elimination of hazards at railroad-highway at-grade crossings.

This allocation is subject to enactment of the 2002 Budget Act.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

This resolution allocates State and Federal funds totaling \$5,000,000 for SHOPP construction projects that are approved by the California Public Utilities Commission to eliminate hazards at railroad-highway at grade crossings. A list of unfunded projects that are currently approved by the CPUC is attached. The estimated project costs are included for information only, and the priority of funding is determined by the CPUC. Projects may be deleted or additional projects may be added subsequent to CPUC action.

Attachment

**Lump Sum Allocation of Section 130 Funds
For
Federal Aid Railroad-Highway At-Grade Crossing Program**

Request: The Department requests that the California Transportation Commission allocate \$5,000,000 in FY 2002-03 SHOPP funds as a lump sum for projects to eliminate hazards on State highways at railroad-highway at-grade crossings.

Advantage: A lump sum allocation of Section 130 funds, as opposed to project-by-project allocations, will:

- Protect life and property by reducing hazards at grade crossings up to one-year earlier than under a single project allocation process.
- Reduce contract-processing time up to one year.
- Reduce Department and Commission workload by eliminating up to 20 State highway project allocation requests each year.

Background: Responsibility for implementing the Section 130 grade crossing program was recently transferred to the Division of Rail. The Division of Rail proposes to administer local assistance railroad grade crossing protection funds and minor capital outlay SHOPP funds that are programmed for Section 130 projects as a single program. This practice will expedite project delivery and simplify the process for railroads, local agencies and the State. One element of this simplification process involves the allocation of Section 130 capital outlay SHOPP funds as a lump sum at the beginning of the fiscal year. Lump sum allocation will facilitate entering into "corridor projects" with railroads for the elimination of hazards at grade crossings on both local streets and on State highways.

Past practice has typically been to enter into contracts for a single crossing. The Department and the California Public Utilities Commission have jointly adopted guidelines that provide funding two or more crossing improvements within warning circuitry limits as a corridor project. We plan to enter into corridor contracts with the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad and the Union Pacific Railroad to improve about 12 crossings a year in each corridor. Some of the crossings are on State highways and others are on local streets. Lump sum allocation to the Division of Rail will allow the Department to expedite service agreements by centralizing the establishment of expenditure authorizations, environmental review and right-of-way clearance in the Division of Rail instead of relying on District office staff to perform these functions, which take six to twelve months, or more, to complete.

The CTC has been concerned about the volume of Section 130 projects requiring supplemental allocations and the time it takes to complete a project. The Department has addressed these concerns. All new Section 130 service agreements include clauses that cap the funds at the amount specified in the initial service contract and limit a time extension to one year, unless extraordinary circumstances necessitate an adjustment.

Federal Aid Railroad-Highway At-Grade Crossing Program (23 U.S.C., Section 130)

State Highway Projects Approved By California Public Utilities Commission

List Is Current As Of June 20, 2002

List Is Subject to Amendment By CPUC

<u>PUC Crossing</u> <u>Number</u>	<u>Crossing</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Railroad</u>	<u>Estimated</u> <u>Project Cost</u>
002-924.6	State Route 55, Garces Highway	Kern	Burlington Northern & Santa Fe RR Co.	\$650,000
2-1057.7	State Route 59, Snelling Hwy	Merced	Burlington Northern & Santa Fe RR Co.	\$412,000
2X-19.2	State Route 64, D Street	Riverside	Burlington Northern & Santa Fe RR Co.	\$345,000
2X-35.9	State Route 74/79, Florida Street	Riverside	Burlington Northern & Santa Fe RR Co.	\$767,000
2X-29.95	State Route 79, Winchester Road	Riverside	Burlington Northern & Santa Fe RR Co.	\$628,000
AAB-68.4	State Route 29	Solano	California Northern Railroad Co.	\$235,000
AX-380.1	State Route 36	Lassen	Sierra Pacific Industries (Quincy RR)	\$650,000
AX-366.79	State Route 395	Lassen	Sierra Pacific Industries (Quincy RR)	\$650,000
39-34.8	State Route 120	Tuolumne	Sierra RR Co.	\$650,000
39-36.1	State Route 49	Tuolumne	Sierra RR Co.	\$650,000
42-3.10	State Route 119, Taft Hwy	Kern	San Joaquin Valley RR Co.	\$485,000
103BD-280.0	State Route 145, Lassen Ave.	Fresno	San Joaquin Valley RR Co.	\$459,000
BQ-324.80	State Route 184, Main Street	Kern	San Joaquin Valley RR Co.	\$427,000
103BD-271.5	State Route 198	Fresno	San Joaquin Valley RR Co.	\$430,000
42-7.2	State Route 223, Blue Mountain Blvd.	Kern	San Joaquin Valley RR Co.	\$404,000
38B-6.0	State Route 135, Broadway	Santa Barbara	Santa Maria Valley RR Co.	\$450,000
EL-90.5	State Route 1	Santa Cruz	Union Pacific RR Co.	\$600,000
DG-116.0	State Route 104,	Sacramento	Union Pacific RR Co.	\$600,000
DG-134.6	State Route 104, Indian Hill	Amador	Union Pacific RR Co.	\$650,000
D-10.75C	State Route 185, Coliseum Way	Alameda	Union Pacific RR Co.	\$78,000
D-10.69C	State Route 185,High Street	Alameda	Union Pacific RR Co.	\$116,000

**Total Estimated Cost,
All Projects**

\$10,336,000